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Remarks/Arguments

Upon entry of the accompanying amendment, claims 1 and 4-21 will be pending in this application. Claims 1, 2, 4-7 and 10-18 are rejected, and claims 2, 4-14 and 16-20 are objected to in the final Office Action dated February 20, 2008. Applicant appreciates the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in claims 2, 4-14 and 16-20. Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 15, 19 and 20 are amended, claims 2 and 18 are cancelled, and claims 21-23 are newly added herein.

Applicant respectfully requests entry of the accompanying amendment as such amendment primarily incorporates the allowable subject matter of cancelled dependent claims into the independent claims, and changes claim dependencies. The newly added claims simply define the allowable subject matter in an alternative manner. Accordingly, the accompanying amendment is deemed to clearly place this application in condition for allowance.

Re: Rejection of Claims 1 and 15

Claims 1 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,483,616 issued to Maddocks et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,606,443 issued to Sgambati. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection for at least the following reason. Independent claims 1 and 15 are amended herein to include the allowable subject matter of dependent claims 2 and 18, respectively. Accordingly, independent claims 1 and 15 and their respective dependent claims are deemed allowable, and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Re: Newly Added Claims 21-23

Claim 21-23 are newly added herein to alternatively define the present invention, and are deemed allowable for at least the following reason. Newly added independent claim 21 is modeled after independent claim 1, and includes the allowable subject matter of dependent claim 7. Accordingly, newly added claims 21-23 are deemed allowable.

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Conclusion

Having fully addressed the Examiner's rejection it is believed that, in view of the accompanying amendments and remarks/arguments, this application stands in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully solicited. If, however, the Examiner is of the opinion that such action cannot be taken, the Examiner is invited to contact the applicant's attorney at (609) 734-6813, so that a mutually convenient date and time for a telephonic interview may be scheduled. No fee is believed due. However, if a fee is due, please charge the fee to Deposit Account 07-0832.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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